



LABORATORIES, INC. 111 Coolidge Street, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 201-753-2000

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MAR 13 1986
Thompson
Duane Marine

March 4, 1986

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Margaret Thompson, Esq.
Assistant Regional Counsel
New Jersey Super Fund Branch
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S.E.P.A., Region II
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

Dear Ms. Thompson:

On February 21, 1986, you sent a letter to our counsel, Peter R. Sarasohn, in response to our petition of May 7, 1985 for the withdrawal of G & W Laboratories as a respondent in the Administrative Order covering the Duane Marine Site. In that letter, you informed us that although the EPA does not agree to withdraw its order naming G & W as one of the responsible parties for the clean-up of the site, you did agree with part of our petition. As a result, you have acknowledged that there should be a reduction in the amount of waste attributable to G & W Laboratories.

In today's mail, I received a copy of the above referenced letter that Mr. Sarasohn forwarded to me. I would first like to express the appreciation of G & W Laboratories to you for the consideration of our petition and for the granting of at least partial relief.

I also wish to address myself to the second, third and fourth paragraphs of page 2 of your letter. I think it is important to point out to you that G & W Laboratories takes its responsibility in this matter very seriously. As soon as we were named as a respondent in this matter, we immediately began to investigate this situation. Because of the fact that we were convinced that the material that came from G & W and ended up in the Duane Marine Site was not hazardous, we filed a petition to be excused from this matter. During the nine


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months that it took EPA to consider and rule upon our petition, G & W Laboratories did not make a commitment to join the other respondents in the work that was to be performed. This is because we felt that our petition had very good chances of being granted.

Now that we have received a final ruling on our petition, and we recognize that we are being considered a contributor to the hazardous waste at the Duane Marine Site, we are preparing to participate in the clean-up effort and to cooperate with the Duane Marine Steering Committee. Our counsel has already contacted the Duane Marine Steering Committee to help us determine what our share of the clean-up effort is.

In summary, G & W Laboratories wants the EPA to recognize that we have no intention of failing to participate in the work effort. Our delay in participating in the work effort was simply a result of awaiting final word from EPA on our petition.

Very truly yours,


Ronald Greenblatt
Vice President

RG:dc

cc: Peter R. Sarasohn, Esq.